

1 WHEREFORE, WE CLAIM

1 1. An automated car wash system comprising an
2 anthropomorphic mechanized robot having at least one appendage
3 for receiving and operating a high-powered water spray gun.

1 2. An automated system for washing a car using a high-
2 powered water spray gun, said system comprising:

3 a mechanized robot having at least one appendage for
4 receiving and operating said spray gun;

5 a sensor for detecting the presence of said car in proximity
6 to said mechanized robot; and

7 a control system for alternately activating said robot and
8 said spray gun when said sensor detects the presence of said car
9 and deactivating said robot and said spray gun when said sensor
10 does not detect the presence of said car.

1 3. The automated system of claim 2, wherein said mechanized
2 robot comprises a framework composed of a rigid material.

1 4. The automated system of claim 2, wherein said framework
2 includes an upper skeleton and a base.

1 5. The automated system of claim 2, wherein said upper
2 skeleton is formed of cold-rolled steel and said base is composed
3 of stainless steel.

1 6. The automated system of claim 4, wherein said mechanized
2 robot further comprises a plurality of linkages interconnected
3 with a network of pumps and hoses operable to move said robot and
4 said appendage, said linkages, pumps and hoses being housed
5 within said framework.

1 7. The automated system of claim 6, wherein said mechanized
2 robot further includes a plurality of outer body panels mounted
3 to said framework, said panels providing said robot with form and
4 protecting said linkages and said pumps and hoses.

1 8. The automated system of claim 6, wherein said linkages
2 and said pumps and hoses are configured to move said appendage
3 relative to said upper skeleton and said upper skeleton relative
4 to said base so as to simulate a variety of movements.

1 9. The automated system of claim 6, wherein pumps comprise
2 a system of pneumatic pumps.

1 10. The automated system of claim 9, wherein said pneumatic
2 pumps comprise a variety of air pistons individually controlled
3 by solenoid valves.

1 11. The automated system of claim 10, wherein one or more
2 of said solenoid valves are controlled by a repeat cycle timer.

1 12. The automated system of claim 2, wherein said sensor
2 comprises a magnetic sensor comprising a magnetic field amplifier
3 connected to a floor pad adapted to generate a magnetic field.

1 13. The automated system of claim 12, wherein said control
2 system comprises a relay connected to said magnetic sensor for
3 providing power to said robot and a magnetic starter connected to
4 said spray gun.

1 14. An automated system for washing a car using a high-
2 powered water spray gun, said system comprising:
3 a mechanized robot having at least one appendage for
4 receiving and operating said spray gun, wherein said mechanized
5 robot comprises a framework including an upper skeleton and a
6 base composed of a rigid material, and a plurality of linkages
7 interconnected with a network of pneumatic pumps and hoses
8 controlled by solenoid valves and operable to move said robot and
9 said appendage, said linkages, pumps and hoses being housed
10 within said framework, and further wherein said mechanized robot
11 further includes a plurality of outer body panels mounted to said
12 framework, said panels providing said robot with form and
13 protecting said linkages and said pumps and hoses, wherein said
14 linkages and said pumps and hoses are configured to move said
15 appendage relative to said upper skeleton and said upper skeleton
16 relative to said base so as to simulate a variety of movements;

17 a sensor for detecting the presence of said car in proximity
18 to said mechanized robot, wherein said sensor comprises a
19 magnetic sensor comprising a magnetic field amplifier connected
20 to a floor pad adapted to generate a magnetic field; and
21 a control system for alternately activating said robot and
22 said spray gun when said sensor detects the presence of said car
23 and deactivating said robot and said spray gun when said sensor
24 does not detect the presence of said car, wherein said control
25 system comprises a relay connected to said magnetic sensor for
26 providing power to said robot and a magnetic starter connected to
27 said spray gun.

1 15. A method for washing a car comprising the steps of:
2 providing a high-powered water spray gun;
3 providing an anthropomorphic mechanized robot having at
4 least one appendage for receiving and operating said spray gun;
5 sensing the presence of said car in proximity to said
6 mechanized robot;
7 alternately activating said robot and said spray gun when
8 said sensor detects the presence of said car and deactivating
9 said robot and said spray gun when said sensor does not detect
10 the presence of said car.